#9/A A) 10-4-01



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Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

On

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Million

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Robert F. Bonner et al.

Application No.: 09/456,042

Filed: December 6, 1999

For: DESIGNS FOR NON-CONTACT

LASER CAPTURE MICRODISSECTION

Examiner:

G. Gabel

Art Unit:

1641

AMENDMENT RESPONSIVE TO

SECOND RESTRICTION

REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 17, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

14. (Once Amended) A process of laser capture microdissection from a specimen according to claim wherein the step of selectively activating the selectively activatable layer to cause volumetric expansion includes:

heating and expanding the selectively activatable layer to cause volumetric expansion first by locally heating and expanding a first inner volume of the selectively